

Message Text

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72-60
ORIGIN SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 /015 R

DRAFTED BY A/SY/FO:JRDONOVAN:BS
APPROVED BY A/SY/FO - PHILIP J. HARRICK
ARA/CAR:DPIERCE

----- 014198

R 261821Z NOV 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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CARACAS FOR RSO; PANAMA FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, MSG

SUBJECT: MARINE SECURITY GUARD WEAPONS

REF: BRIDGETOWN'S 2104

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO PARA 3 OF REFTEL. PAST EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT NEGOTIATIONS OVER ESTABLISHMENT OF DETACHMENT WITH HOST GOVERNMENT USUALLY INCLUDED THE SUBJECT OF WEAPONS AND LITTLE DIFFICULTY WAS EXPERIENCED ONCE HOST GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES WERE ADVISED THAT WEAPONS WERE PROVIDED FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES ONLY AND WOULD ONLY BE USED WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE EMBASSY. REMOVAL FROM THE EMBASSY FOR PRACTICE FIRING WOULD ONLY BE DONE AFTER ADVISING LOCAL POLICE AUTHORITIES.

2. THE WEAPONS CURRENTLY HELD BY BARBADIAN AUTHORITIES ARE THE PROPERTY OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND SHOULD NOT BE LICENSED SINCE LICENSING CONNOTATES PRIVATE OWNERSHIP.

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IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT AMBASSADOR HAS ALREADY

ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING PROPER USE, STORAGE,
AND CONTROL OF WEAPONS, AND HIS ASSURANCES SHOULD BE
ADEQUATE.

3. SHOULD AUTHORITIES CONTINUE TO REFUSE RELEASE OF THE
WEAPONS, ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO RETURN THEM TO U.S.
WITHOUT DELAY. ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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